

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

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NOFORN

E.O. 11652:

TAGS:

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

TO: EA - MR. HOLBROOKE

FROM: EA/RA - FRANK C. BENNETT

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

1. HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION COMPLETES ITS SESSION
(CONFIDENTIAL)

OUR DELEGATION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION HAS REPORTED
THAT IT THINKS WE CAME OUT OF THE SESSION WITH A NOTABLY
POSITIVE BALANCE. AS FAR AS SPECIFIC EA ISSUES ARE CONCERN-
ED, THE COMMISSION GENERALLY TOOK FAIRLY MILD ACTION. THE
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TWO EA COUNTRIES -- KOREA AND INDONESIA -- WHICH WERE TO BE
CONSIDERED ON THE BASIS OF PRIVATE COMPLAINTS (I.E. UNDER
1503 PROCEDURES) WERE TREATED RATHER GENTLY. ON KOREA, THE
COMMISSION, IN PRIVATE SESSION, DECIDED THAT THE HUMAN
RIGHTS SITUATION SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE KEPT UNDER REVIEW IN
THE LIGHT OF ANY FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE ROK OR ANY
OTHER SOURCES. ON INDONESIA THE COMMISSION NOTED ITS

APPRECIATION AND HOPE FOR A CONTINUANCE OF THE CONTACTS

BETWEEN THE GOI AND ILO ON WORKING CONDITIONS IN INDONESIA'S REHABILITATION CENTERS. IT ALSO INVITED THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING FURTHER IMPROVEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE COUNTRY.

THE COMMISSION TOOK AN IMPLICITLY CRITICAL DECISION ON COMBODIA REQUESTING THE SYG TO SUBMIT THE RELEVANT RECORDS OF THE COMMISSION'S PROCEEDINGS TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT FOR ITS RESPONSE. THAT ANSWER TOGETHER WITH "ALL INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE" IS TO BE REPORTED BACK TO THE COMMISSION NEXT YEAR. THIS DECISION WAS A COMPROMISE WITH THE DRAFT RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE UK WHICH WOULD HAVE CALLED FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR TO STUDY THE SITUATION IN CAMBODIA.

ONE SOMEWHAT SOUR NOTE WAS THE DECISIVE DEFEAT OF JAPAN, THE ONLY EA CANDIDATE, FOR A SEAT ON THE COMMISSION ON THE PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS WORKING GROUP MEETING ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE (LOU)

SIX LOANS TO EA COUNTRIES WERE REVIEWED AND A PROPOSED \$13.3 MILLION PL 480 COTTON AND WHEAT PROGRAM FOR THE PHILIPPINES
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DISCUSSED AT THE IGHRA WORKING GROUP MEETING MARCH 13. EA/RA STATED THE BUREAU'S VIEW THAT NONE OF THE THREE COUNTRIES INVOLVED COULD BE CLASSIFIED AS "GROSS AND CONSISTENT" VIOLATORS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND PRESENTED CAPSULE ANALYSE" OF THE SITUATION IN EACH COUNTRY. HA/HR'S REPRESENTATIVE CHALLENGED OUR ANALYSES ASSERTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAS COME UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE FROM CONGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS ANOMALIES IN THAILAND AND MALAYSIA. SHE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROPOSED LOAN TO MALAYSIA AND TWO OF THE THREE LOANS FOR THAILAND MET BASIC HUMAN NEEDS CRITERIA AND ULTIMATELY DID NOT OPPOSE THE THIRD LOAN TO THE LATTER COUNTRY.

TWO LOANS TO THE PHILIPPINES ALSO WERE APPROVED FOR INCLUSION ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR WHEN HA/HR WITHDREW ITS OBJECTION AFTER REVIEWING MANILA'S 3121 AND 3948. NO DECISION WAS TAKEN ON THE PL 480 PROGRAM WHICH IS IN A VERY EARLY STAGE OF CONSIDERATION IN AID.

3. DECISION ON IFI LOAN TO KOREA (CONFIDENTIAL)

PAPERS WERE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FRIDAY AND

MONDAY ON TWO PROPOSED IFI LOANS TO SOUTH KOREA, AN ADB

LOAN TO THE KOREAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AN IBRD LOAN TO THE KOREAN NATIONAL RAILWAYS. THE ADB LOAN WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE BANK'S BOARD ON MARCH 16 (THIS EVENING WASHINGTON TIME). THE MEMO FROM YOU AND TONY LAKE EMPHASIZED HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS IN KOREA AND EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE TO TAKE PUNITIVE ACTION IN AN IFI AGAINST THE ROK AT THIS TIME. IN PARALLEL MEMO, HA/HR ACCEPTED THAT THERE HAS BEEN PROGRESS BUT URGED THAT HE ABSTAIN ON THESE LOANS TO FORCE FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS. WE NOW UNDERSTAND MR CHRISTOPHER HAS APPROVED BOTH LOANS AND HAS SO INFORMED TREASURY.

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4. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HEARINGS (LOU)

COPIES OF YOUR STATEMENT SUBMITTED IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR APPEARANCE BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS (LESTER WOLFF) OF THE HIRC ON MARCH 9 AND 14 TO DISCUSS THE FY 79 SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ARE BEING POUCHED TO ALL POSTS. IT SEEMED NOTEWORTHY TO US THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT BOTH HEARINGS WAS FRIENDLY AND NON-CONFRONTATIONAL, EVEN SUPPORTIVE AND THAT QUESTIONING BY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS WAS NOT DIRECTED ALONG ANY PARTICULAR LINE.

5. NAM NOTES (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE ROK HAS HEARD THAT THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE REQUESTED OBSERVER STATUS AT THE MEETING BEGINNING MAY 6 AT KABUL OF THE NON-ALIGNED (NAM) COORDINATING COMMITTEE. ALSO REPORTEDLY THE NORTH KOREANS HAVE REQUESTED THE YUGOSLAVS TO INCLUDE THE KOREAN QUESTION ON THE AGENDA OF THE FULL NAM MINISTERIAL MEETING IN BELGRADE THIS SUMMER.

MEANWHILE, IN A DISCUSSION IN NEW YORK, THE MALAYSIAN COUNSELOR OBSERVED THAT NAM HAD LOST MUCH OF ITS ORIGINAL RATIONALE AND THAT BASICALLY IT EXISTS TODAY BECAUSE IT HAS EXISTED SINCE THE EARLY 1950'S. HE SAID THAT MALAYSIA WAS CONCERNED OVER NAM'S LEFTWARD DRIFT BUT THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS LITTLE THAT COULD BE DONE TO STOP THE PROCESS.

6. SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT (SECRET/NOFORN)

LOUISE MCNUTT IS ATTENDING A MEETING IN PM THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE INITIATIVES IN THE SSOD ON THE QUESTION OF NON-USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST NON-NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES, A SUBJECT WHICH PARTICULARLY AFFECTS OUR RELATIONS
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WITH SOUTH KOREA AND JAPAN.

7. LONG TERM REFUGEE POLICY (LOU)

WE ARE CONTINUING TO COOPERATE WITH HA/ORM IN DEVELOPING THROUGH THE NSC A LONG-TERM POLICY TOWARD REFUGEES, WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. AT THE WEEK'S END COLONEL DENEND HAD PREPARED A REVISED DRAFT INTER-AGENCY PAPER FOR THE PRESIDENT BUT THERE ARE STILL A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS TO BE OVERCOME.

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES (UNCLASSIFIED)

WE HAVE IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENTS REQUESTED IN 1977 STATE 291277 IN FROM ALL FOURTEEN EA POSTS CONCERNED. THE DESKS HAVE DONE SUMMARIES OF THESE IMPLEMENTATION STATEMENTS FOR EVENTUAL TRANSMISSION TO THE NSC FOR THE PRESIDENT. MR. OAKLEY IS REVIEWING THE SUMMARIES NOW, AFTER WHICH THEY WILL GO TO S/P AND THEN TO S/S-S.

9. TRAVELLING DIRECTOR (UNCLASSIFIED)

BOB MARTENS RETURNS FROM THE NEW DELHI LABOR OFFICERS CONFERENCE AND A STOPOVER IN AUSTRALIA THIS SUNDAY, AND WILL BE BACK IN THE OFFICE MONDAY. VANCE

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